

Notes: All times are +/- 2 minutes. "UI" = Unintelligible. "L" = Ladder. "B" = Battalion. Second indents indicate transmissions that respond immediately to preceding transmissions. Bracketed material is not on the tape.

8:45 [Tape Begins]

8:50

"Safety Battalion 1 to Citywide Base."

Unit calls citywide dispatcher

UI = unintelligible

8:55

"The crossband repeater in the battalion car is a backup to the building repeater."

"Donovan is on the air."

8:58

Paging Tones

Non-FDNY transmissions

"Car 3-6 Adam to Brooklyn"

"Car 3-6 Adam to Brooklyn."

9:01

Non-FDNY transmissions

9:04

"Mask service to citywide."

"Mask service to citywide."

Non-FDNY transmissions

9:05

"Car 7 to Citywide."

"Car 7."

"...mask service..." UI

9:05:45

[Repeater Turned On by FDNY, according to PA]

"Battalion 1 to Battalion 7."

"Battalion 1 to Battalion 7."

"Battalion 7 to Battalion 1, how do you read me?"

"Battalion 1 to Battalion 7."

"Battalion 7 to Battalion 1, how do you read me?"

"Battalion 1 to Battalion 7."

"Battalion 7 to Battalion 1, how do you read me?"

9:07

"4Bravo to 1."

"Battalion 1 to Battalion 7."

"4Bravo to Battalion 7."

B7: "Go ahead 4Bravo to Battalion 7."

4B: "I'm down in the lobby I can read you."

B7: "Alright, Battalion 1 wanted a radio check."

"Battalion 1 to Battalion 7, I don't think we have the repeater. I pick you up on my radio but not on the hard wire."

B7: Alright, you want me to remain on Channel 7 or go to Channel 1?"

"4Bravo to Field Com." [occurred in between previous & next transmission]

B1: "No, we're going to have to use the car repeater. Do you think you have your ... UI... on?"

B7: "I'm going to give it to Chief Burns in the lobby of Tower 2."

B1: "Okay, we're going to need something in this Tower 1 here."

B7: "Alright, I got the repeater on in the battalion... UI ... did the radio, k?"

9:08

"Battalion 7 to Battalion 1."

B1: "Battalion 1. We'll use, we'll use Channel 2 in this building as the command channel for the chiefs."

B7: "Alright, you are going to stay on Channel 1 with tactical?"

B1: "I'm staying on tactical. You should stay on the command Channel 2."

"4Bravo to Field Com."

B7: "10-4."

9:09

No sound on tape.

Non-FDNY transmissions

9:12

"Car 4Bravo to Division 1."

"4Bravo to Division 1."

"4Bravo to Division 1. Does anybody over in Tower 1 hear me?"

"Citywide Barbara to Citywide Callan."

"Negative, I'm looking... UI ... Tower 1."

"4Bravo to Division 1."

"Car 4Bravo to Manhattan, k? This is 4Bravo, I'm on tower citywide, I'm in Tower 2."

"...by the financial center. I'm by the American Express building tower."

"Battalion 7 to Ladder 15, how do you read me?"

9:14

"Car 4Bravo to Manhattan ... Car 4Bravo to citywide."

"Car 4Bravo to Fieldcom."

"4Bravo to Fieldcom. This is 4Bravo ... UI ... me the Liberty way."

9:15

4B: "Does anybody read me?"

"This is 4Bravo, can I get a 5th alarm for Tower 2? Have them come in on Church Street."

"This is 1, right?"

"This is 2."

4B: "A 5th alarm for Tower 2. Have them come in to us at Church and Liberty."

UI

9:16

"4Bravo to Fieldcom."

"4Bravo to Car 4 ... 4Bravo to 3."

4B: "Hey Pete, did you get that? We need a 5th alarm over in Tower 2."

"Hey Chief, what number car is this?"

4B: "Alright, listen, I tried to get the companies to come in on Church and Liberty."

"Battalion 7 to Battalion 7Alpha."

B7A: "Alpha."

B7: "Alright, we're sending an elevator down for you."

B7A: UI

9:18

"This is Battalion 7 to lobby command post Tower 2."

"This is Battalion 7 in the South Tower to lobby command post Tower 2."

"...not picking you up..."

4B: "Who's at the lobby command post of Tower 2?"

"This is Battalion 7 on floor 40 of Tower 2. We got one elevator working up to the 40th floor staffed by a member of Ladder 15, k."

4B: "Alright, but I got no units yet. There are no units here yet."

B7: "Yeah, we're just starting them up. 10-4."

"4Bravo to Car 3... Pete, I got an eyewitness who says there was an explosion on Floor 78, 78...that's Tower 2."

Non-FDNY transmissions and UI

B7A: "Alpha to 7."

Non-FDNY transmissions

B7A: "7Alpha to 7."

B7: "Go ahead Steve."

7A: "Where are you Chief?"

B7: "Go around to the right, keep going around to the right to the core of the building, to the B stairway... Hold on 7Alpha, hold on."

9:21

"Car 4Bravo to 4David."

4B: "Battalion 7 is up in Tower 2, he's up on the 40th Floor."

4B: "Hey Joe, I need some companies over here in Tower 2. I need some companies."

15OV: "Louie, you left the heat detector here, you need it?"

15: "Negative Tommy, keep it in the elevator with you."

"Battalion 7 Chief."

"Battalion 7, go."

"Emergency service cops want to back you up. Can you tell them where you are, they got all their shit with them."

B7: "We're on the 43rd Floor, stairway B."

"Battalion 7 to the Branch Commander of Tower 2, the South Tower."

9:24

"Joe, Battalion 7 to Tower 2."

"15 Irons to 15."

"15 Irons to 15."

15: "Go ahead, Irons."

15 Irons: "Just got a report from the director of Morgan Stanley. 78 seems to have taken the brunt of this stuff, there's a lot of bodies, they say the stairway is clear all the way up, though."

15: "Alright, 10-4 Scott. What, what floor are you on?"

15 Irons: "48 right now."

15: "Alright, we're coming up behind you."

UI

"226 to 7th Battalion."

B7A: "7Alpha to 7."

B7: "Go ahead, Steve."

B7A: "Yeah Chief, I'm going to stop on 44, k."

B7: "K, take your time."

B7A: "10-4."

"Battalion 7 to Branch Commander Tower 2"

"Battalion 7 to Branch Commander of Tower 2, South Tower."

"Hazmat ...UI... to Manhattan."

9:27

"15 OV to Battalion 7."

"Battalion 7."

15 OV: "I got an engine company on 40, do you want them up there?"

B7: "Tell them we're going to have to try to get the high-rise bank of elevators into operation. Until we verify the fire floor, we can't do that."

"Battalion 7 to Ladder 15 OV."

"OV."

B7: "Try to get down to the lobby and find out what bank of elevators terminates below the 76th floor. That's the bank we're going to want to use."

15OV: "10-4."

9:29

"Battalion 7 to Branch Commander Tower 2, South Tower, k."

"Battalion 7 to Fieldcom, k."

"7Alpha to Battalion 7, Orio we're in the North Tower, Tower 2, the North Tower."

B7: "Correction, Battalion 7 to South Tower, Tower 1 Branch Commander, k."

"Battalion 7 to Ladder 15 OV."

"7Alpha to 7."

"...7."

9:31

B7A: "Battalion 7, you want me to relay?"

15: "Yeah, Steve tell Chief Palmer they got reports that there's more planes in the area, we may have to back down here."

B7A: "10-4."

"7Alpha to 7."

B7: "Steve."

"7 to 7Alpha."

"15 to 15 Roof."

"15 Roof."

15: "We got reports of another incoming plane, we may have to take cover, stay in the stairwell."

15 Roof: "10-4."

"15 to 15 Roof, that plane is ours, I repeat it's ours. What floor are you on, Scotty?"

15 Roof: "54."

15: "Alright, keep making your way up, we're behind you."

15 Roof: "10-4."

9:32

"Battalion 9 to Battalion 7."

B7: "Go ahead, k."

B9: "Orio."

B7: "Go."

B9: "What floor should we try to get up to, Orio?"

B7: "I'm up to 55. We need to find the bank, the bank of elevators that terminate below 76th floor, ...UI ...it's a thirty-floor walkup, k."

B9: "Below what floor?"

B7: "Below 76, we have a report of fire on 78,... UI ... terminates below 76."

B9: "Alright."

Background noise from lobby.
Non-FDNY paging tones.
Silent.
UI.

"15 to 15 Roof."

Non-FDNY transmissions

UI

9:36

"Battalion 7 to Tower 1."

"Hazmat to Battalion 7."

"Battalion 7, go."

"Hazmat 1 to Battalion 7."

B7: "...Go."

"Battalion 7 responding."

"Battalion 7...UI."

Non-FDNY transmissions

"Rescue 1 Delta to Rescue 1 Terry."

Non-FDNY transmissions

"15 to 15 OV."

"15 OV."

15: "Tommy, listen carefully, I'm sending all the injured down to you on 40. You're going to have to get them down to the elevator, there's about 10 to 15 people coming down to you."

15OV: "OK."

15: "10 civilians coming down."

"15 to OV."

L15 OV: "Got that, I'm on 40 right now, Lieu."

9:39

15: "Alright Tommy, when you take people down to the lobby, try to get an EMS crew back."

15 OV: "Definitely."

Noise.

"Battalion 7 to Ladder 15 OV."

"Battalion 7 to Ladder 15 OV."

"7Alpha to 7, I'll try to relay."

B7: "Tell the command post..."

"...UI..."

B7A: "7Alpha to 7, repeat that."

"Rescue 1 Delta to Rescue 1."

Non-FDNY transmissions

"Hazmat 1 to Battalion 7."

B7: "Go ahead Hazmat 1."

9:43

Hazmat 1: "Alright we're in Stairway B, Tower 2 on the 4-8 Floor."

B7: "Tower 1, k."

Hazmat 1: "Tower 2."

"B7 to Tower 1, South Tower."

Non-FDNY transmissions

"Battalion 7 to Ladder 15 Roof, what's your progress?"

15 Roof: "63, Battalion."

B7: "10-4."

"Battalion 9 to Battalion 7."

B7: "Go ahead Battalion 9."

B9: "Orio, I couldn't find a bank to bring you up there any higher. I'm on the 40th floor, what can I do for you?"

B7: "We're going to have to hoof it. I'm on 69 now but we need a higher bank, k."

B9: "What stairway you in Orio?"

B7: "The center of the building, boy, boy."

"Tac 1 to Tac 1Alpha."

"Battalion 7 to Ladder 15 Roof, what floor?"

"Battalion 9 to Battalion 7."

B7: "...Battalion 9."

B9: "Orio, I'm going to try to get a couple of CFRD engines on the 40th floor so send any victims down here, I'll start up a staging area."

B7: "...find a fireman service elevator close to 40, if we get some more cars in that bank, we'll be alright."

9:45

"15 to Battalion 7."

B7: "Go Ladder 15."

15: "Where are you, Chief?"

B7: "74."

L15: "We're making our way up behind you. We took our coats off."

"B7 to Branch Commander Tower 1, South Tower, k."

"Battalion 7 to Branch 1 Commander, South Tower, k."

"Battalion 7 to Ladder 15 OV elevator, k?"

"Battalion 7 to Battalion 9."

"Battalion 9 to Battalion 7."

B7: "Battalion 9, B stairway walls have been compromised on 73 and 74, no smoke or fire problems, k."

B9: "OK, 10-4."

9:48

"15 to Battalion 7."

B7: "Go Ladder 15."

L15: "What do you got up there, Chief?"

B7: "I'm still in boy stair 74th floor. No smoke or fire problems, walls are breached, so be careful."

L15: "Yeah 10-4, I saw that on 68. Alright, we're on 71 we're coming up behind you."

B7: "10-4. 6 more to go."

L15: "Let me know when you see fire."

B7: "I found a marshal on 75."

9:49

"Rescue 1 Delta to Rescue 1 Hatton."

"Rescue 1. Rescue 1."

"Rescue 1Delta to Terry can you hear me, I'm on 1?"

"15 to 15 OV."

"15 to 15OV."

"15OV."

15: "Tommy, have you made it back down to the lobby yet?"

15OV: "The elevator's screwed up."

L15: "You can't move it?"

15OV: "I don't want to get stuck in the shaft."

9:50

L15: "Alright Tommy, it's imperative that you try to get down to the lobby command post and get some people up to 40. We got injured people up here on 70. If you make it to the lobby command post see if they can somehow get elevators past the 40th floor. We got people injured all the way up here."

"7Alpha to 7."

B7: "Go Steve."

B7A: "Yeah Chief, I'm on 55, I got to rest. I'll try to get up there as soon as possible."

B7: "10-4."

"15 to Battalion 7."

"Battalion 7."

L15: "What floor are you on, Orio?"

B7: "The stairway on 75, going to south stairway and continuing up."

L15: "10-4."

"15 to Battalion 7."

B7: "South Tower, Tower 1 Branch Commander."

"Anybody see the highway 1 car? Highway 1 car we need it for an escort to the hospital for a fireman."

"Battalion 7 to Ladder 15."

"15 Irons."

"15 to 15 Roof and Irons."

"Battalion 6 to command post."

9:52

"Battalion 7 to Battalion 7Alpha."

"Freddie, come on over. Freddie, come on over by us."

B7: "Battalion 7... Ladder 15 we've got two isolated pockets of fire. We should be able to knock it down with two lines. Radio that, 78th Floor numerous 10-45 Code 1's."

L15: "What stair are you in, Orio?"

"7Alpha to lobby command post."

"15 to Battalion 7."

B7: "...Ladder 15."

L15: "Chief, what stair you in?"

B7: "South stairway Adam, South Tower."

L15: "Floor 78?"

B7: "10-4, numerous civilians, we gonna need 2 engines up here."

L15: "Alright 10-4, we're on our way."

"Battalion 6 to command post."

"Battalion 6, Battalion 6 reports there's a sky lobby available at the 44th floor that will serve the floors above. Do you ... that, k?"

"7Alpha to lobby command post. Chief Palmer reports on 78th floor numerous 10-45 Code 1's, we got isolated pockets of fire. We're going to need at least two handlines up there, k."

"7Alpha for Battalion 7."

B7: "South Tower, Steve, South Tower, tell them... UL...Tower 1."

"Battalion 7 to Ladder 15."

"15."

B7: "I'm going to need two of your firefighters Adam stairway to knock down two fires. We have a house line stretched we could use some water on it, knock it down, k."

L15: "Alright 10-4, we're coming up the stairs, we're on 77 now in the B stair, I'll be right to you."

"15 Roof to 15. We're on 71 we're coming right up."

9:56

"Battalion 48 to lobby command post Tower A."

"Battalion 48 to lobby command post Tower 1."

"Battalion 48 to lobby command post Tower 1."

B7: "Operations Tower 1, go lobby command post."

"15 OV to 15."

15: "Orio, we're on 78 but we're in the B stairway, trapped in here, we got to put some fire out to get to you."

"15 Roof to 15."

15: "Go ahead 15 Roof."

15 Roof: "We recommend that you get to the south stairs, the A stairs."

15: "Alright 10-4, we're gonna knock down some fire here in the B stair, we'll meet up with you. You get over to the A stair and help out Chief Palmer."

15 Roof: "10-4, Lieu."

9:57

"Division 3 ... lobby command, to the Fieldcom command post."

B7: "Operations Tower 1 to floor above Battalion 9."

"Battalion 9 to Command post."

"Battalion 7 Operations Tower 1 to Battalion 9, need you on floor above 79. We have access stairs going up to 79, k."

B9: "Alright, I'm on my way up Orio."

"15 OV to 15."

15: "Go ahead 15OV, Battalion 7 Operations Tower 1."

15OV: "Stuck in the elevator, in the elevator shaft, you're going to have to get a different elevator. We're chopping through the wall to get out."

B7: "Radio lobby command with that Tower 1."

9:58

"Battalion 7 to Ladder 15."

[End of tape, approximately 30 seconds after last transmission.]